

Compliments of...



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HOW A BILL BECOMES A LAW





California State Assembly
WILMER AMINA CARTER
 ASSEMBLYMEMBER, 62ND DISTRICT

Dear Kids:

Ever wonder how a law is made? If you ever thought that there ought to be a law to change things for the better, then you are in for a treat. The following coloring book shows you how a bill can become a new law.

Every year thousands of ideas to change existing laws or add new laws are presented in the State Legislature. These ideas are written on a paper that is then called a "bill." Not all bills automatically become new laws. Bills need to be debated and voted on by your state representatives – Assemblymembers and Senators. If a bill passes through all its committees, the Senate, the Assembly and is signed by the Governor, then it becomes a new law.

To learn more, just follow your host "Bill." He comes up with a fun idea, makes it into a bill and moves it through the Legislature.

Good luck and have fun learning about turning a good idea into a new law.

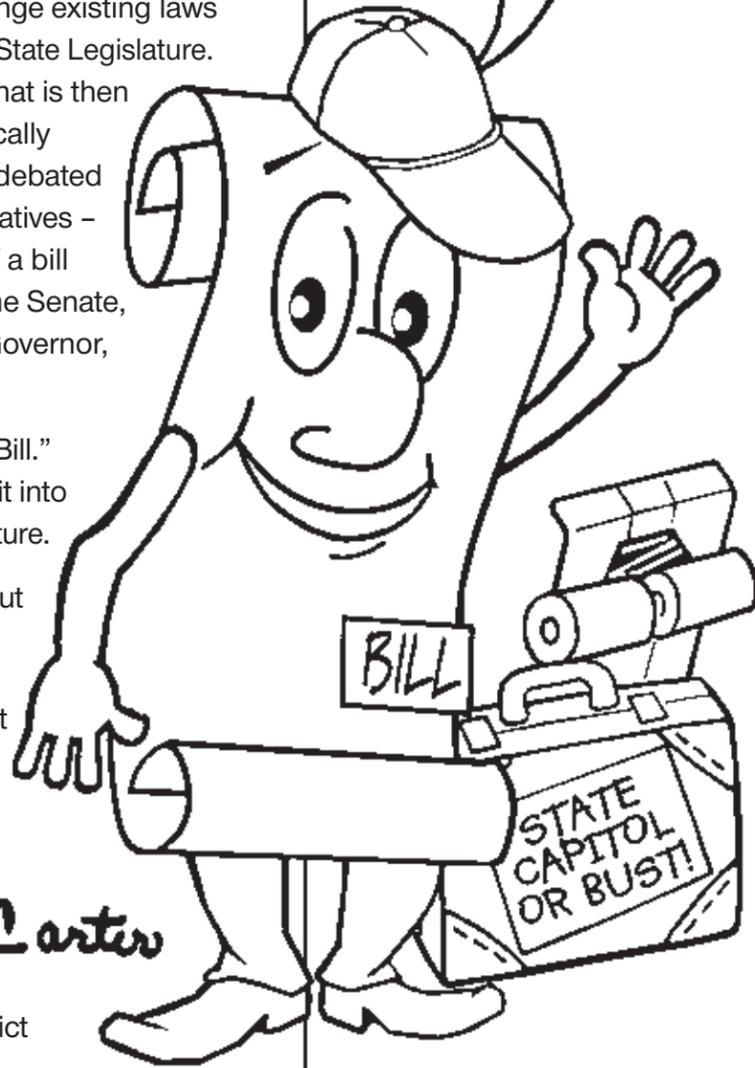
For more information, please contact my office at (909) 820-5008.

Sincerely,

Wilmer Amina Carter

WILMER AMINA CARTER
 Assemblymember, 62nd District

Hey Kids!
 I'm Bill – your guide
 through the maze of
 California government.
 Today I'm going to
 show you how new
 laws are made.

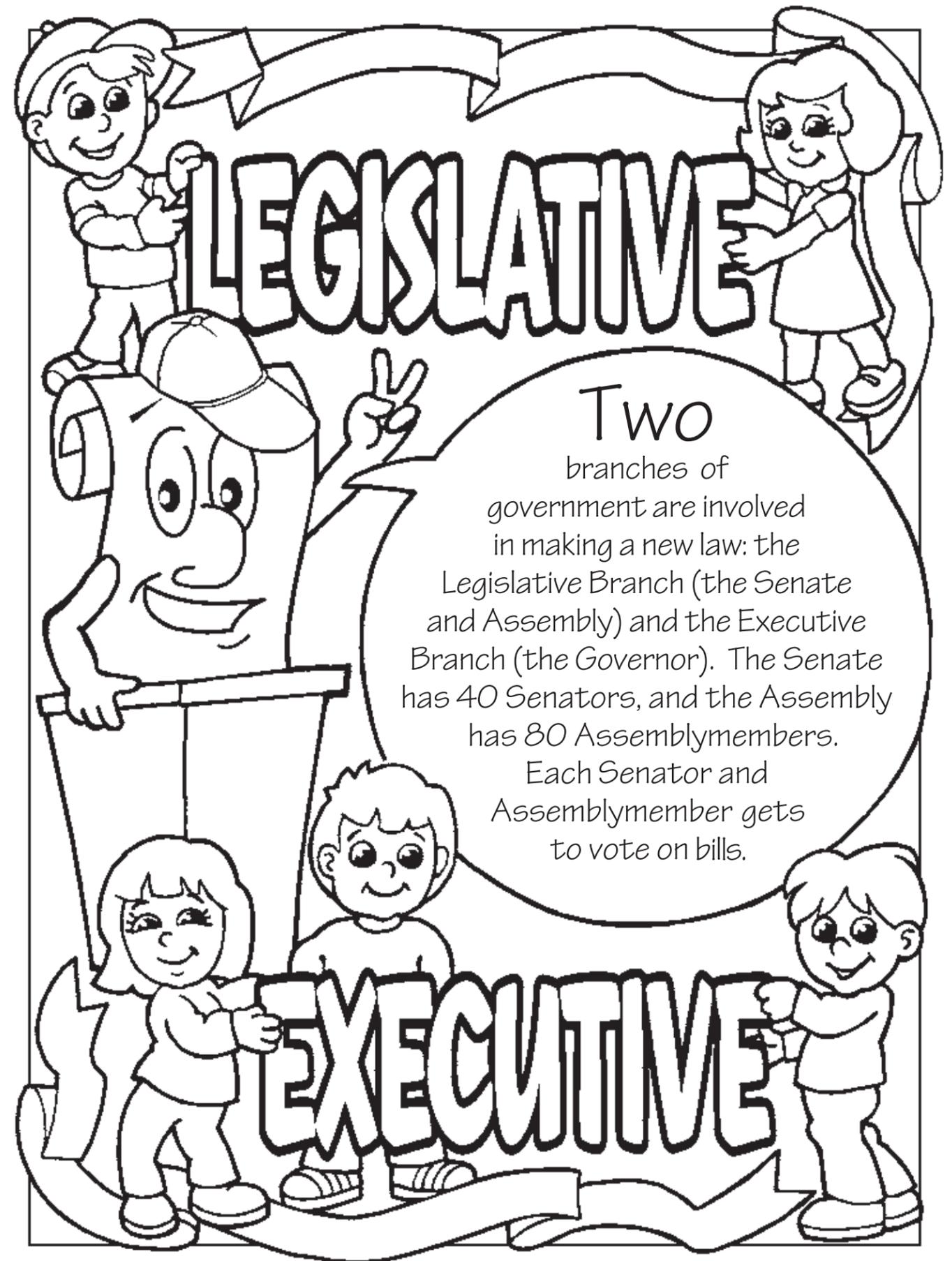




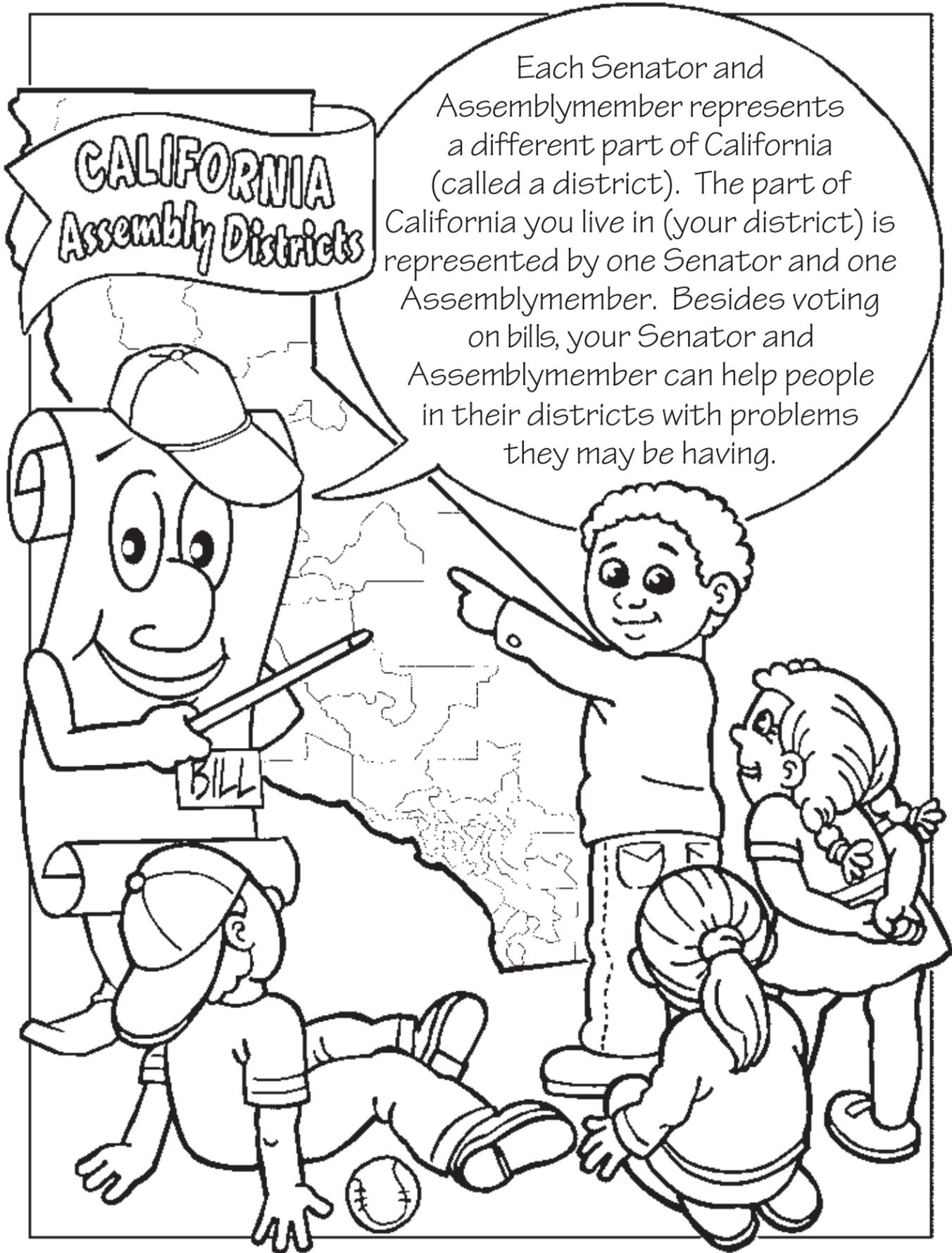
State
Animal:
**Grizzly
Bear**



State
Flower:
**California
Poppy**



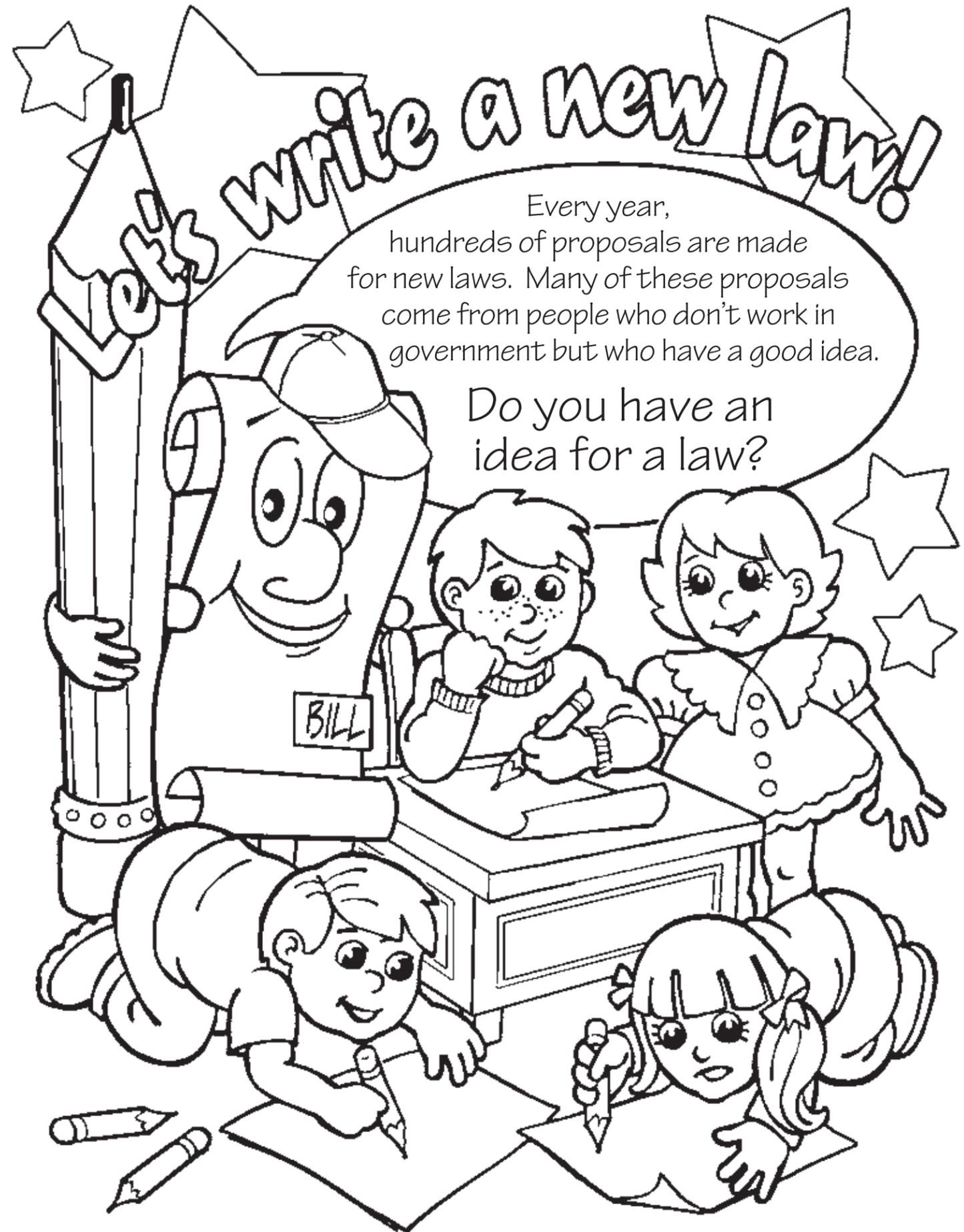
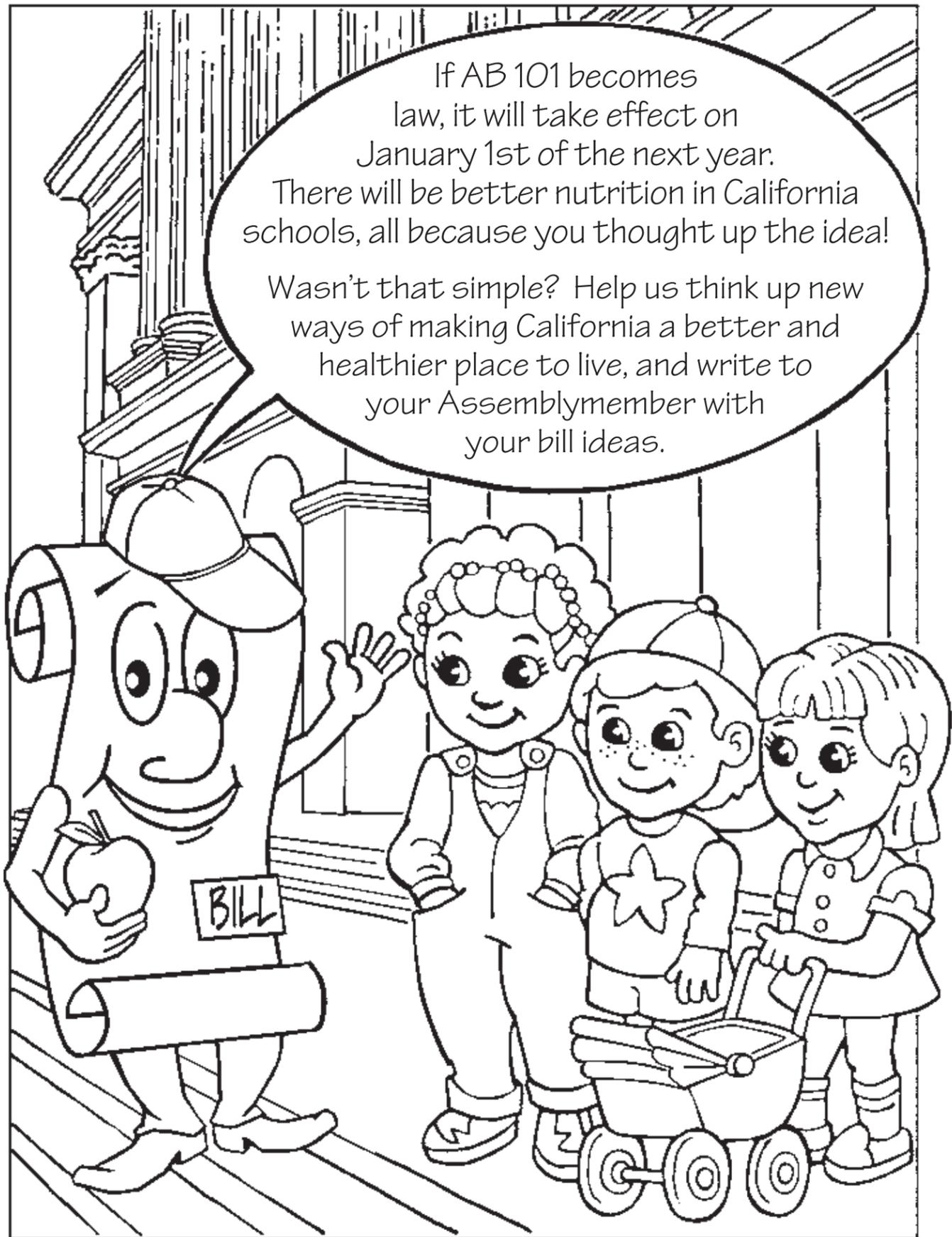
Two
branches of
government are involved
in making a new law: the
Legislative Branch (the Senate
and Assembly) and the Executive
Branch (the Governor). The Senate
has 40 Senators, and the Assembly
has 80 Assemblymembers.
Each Senator and
Assemblymember gets
to vote on bills.

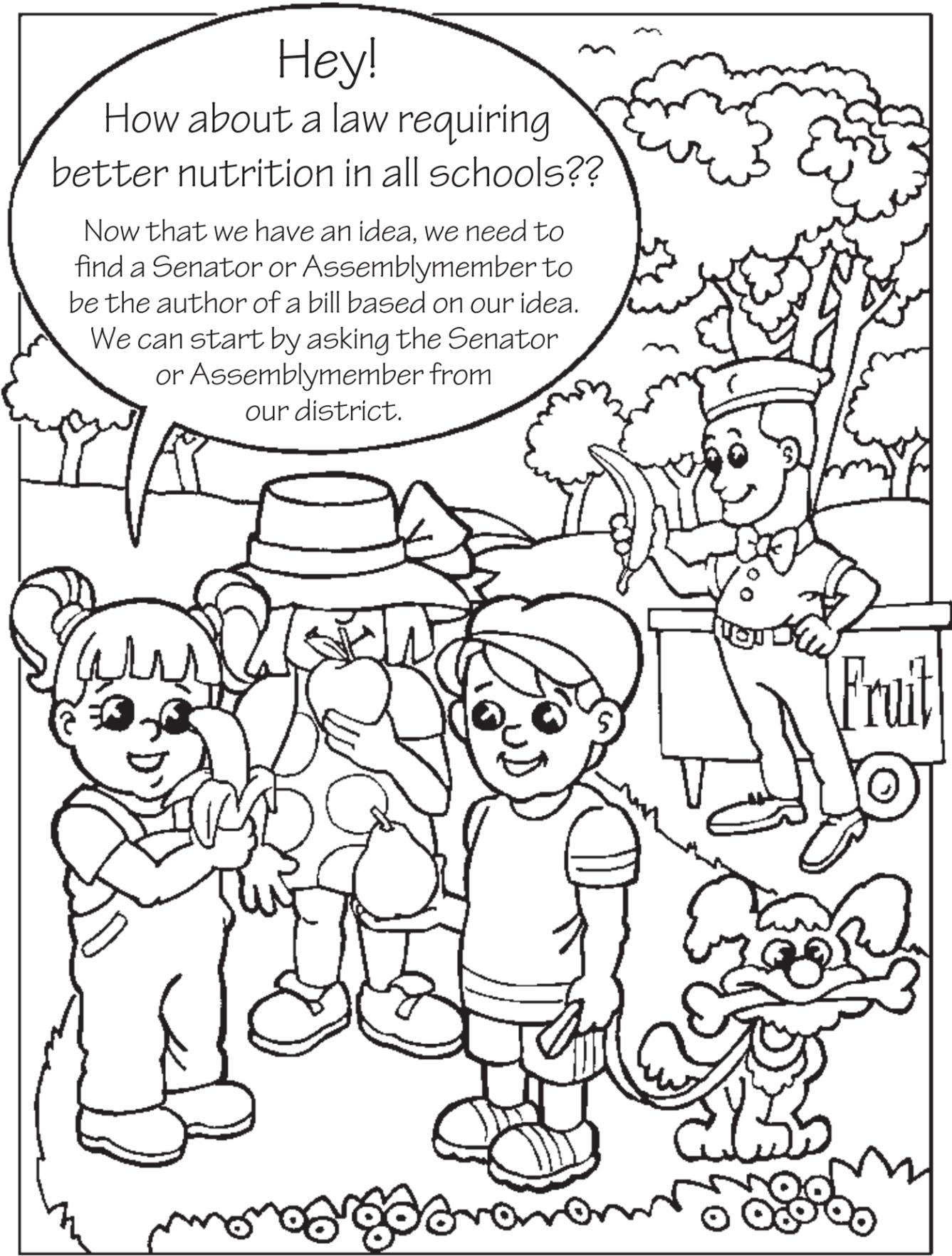


B	L	A	W	M	E	U	A	S	G	E
M	I	A	Z	T	N	W	S	P	E	S
V	L	L	O	X	I	A	S	E	N	E
E	V	V	L	S	E	A	E	A	E	N
T	E	Z	G	D	E	Y	M	K	S	A
O	Q	I	V	Y	D	M	B	E	O	T
C	A	P	I	T	O	L	L	R	G	E
K	C	G	U	X	O	F	Y	Y	O	O
G	O	V	E	R	N	O	R	R	O	Y
W	U	F	W	P	A	S	S	T	D	I

Find the following words from the word bank in the puzzle. They may be up, down, horizontal, diagonal, upside down or backwards.

- | | | |
|----------|--------|---------|
| ASSEMBLY | LAW | SPEAKER |
| BILL | PASS | VETO |
| CAPITOL | SENATE | VOTE |
| GOVERNOR | | |





Hey!

How about a law requiring better nutrition in all schools??

Now that we have an idea, we need to find a Senator or Assemblymember to be the author of a bill based on our idea. We can start by asking the Senator or Assemblymember from our district.

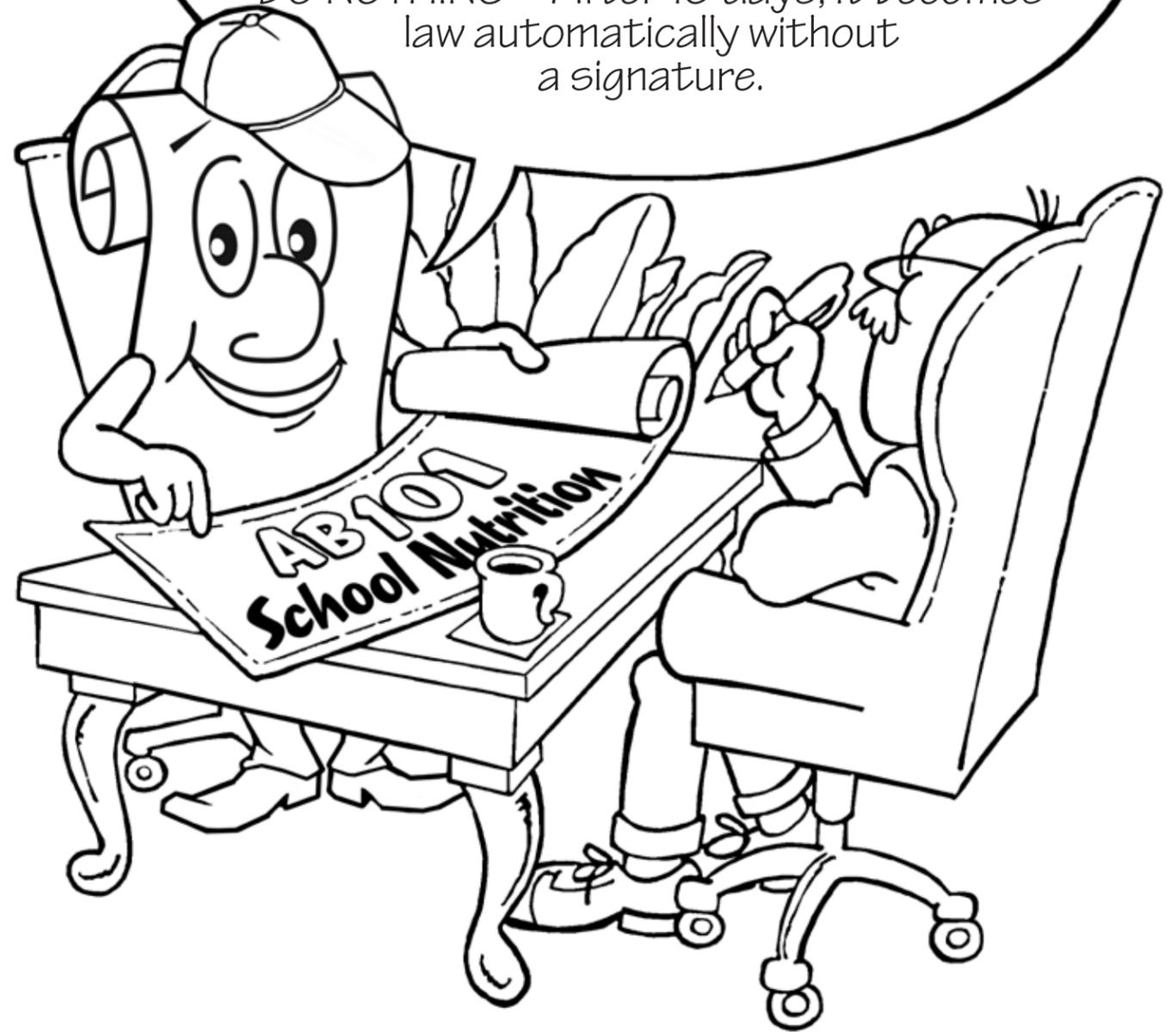
AB 101 becomes a law!

If AB 101 gets passed by both the Assembly and Senate, it will be sent to the Governor. There are three things the Governor can do with your bill.

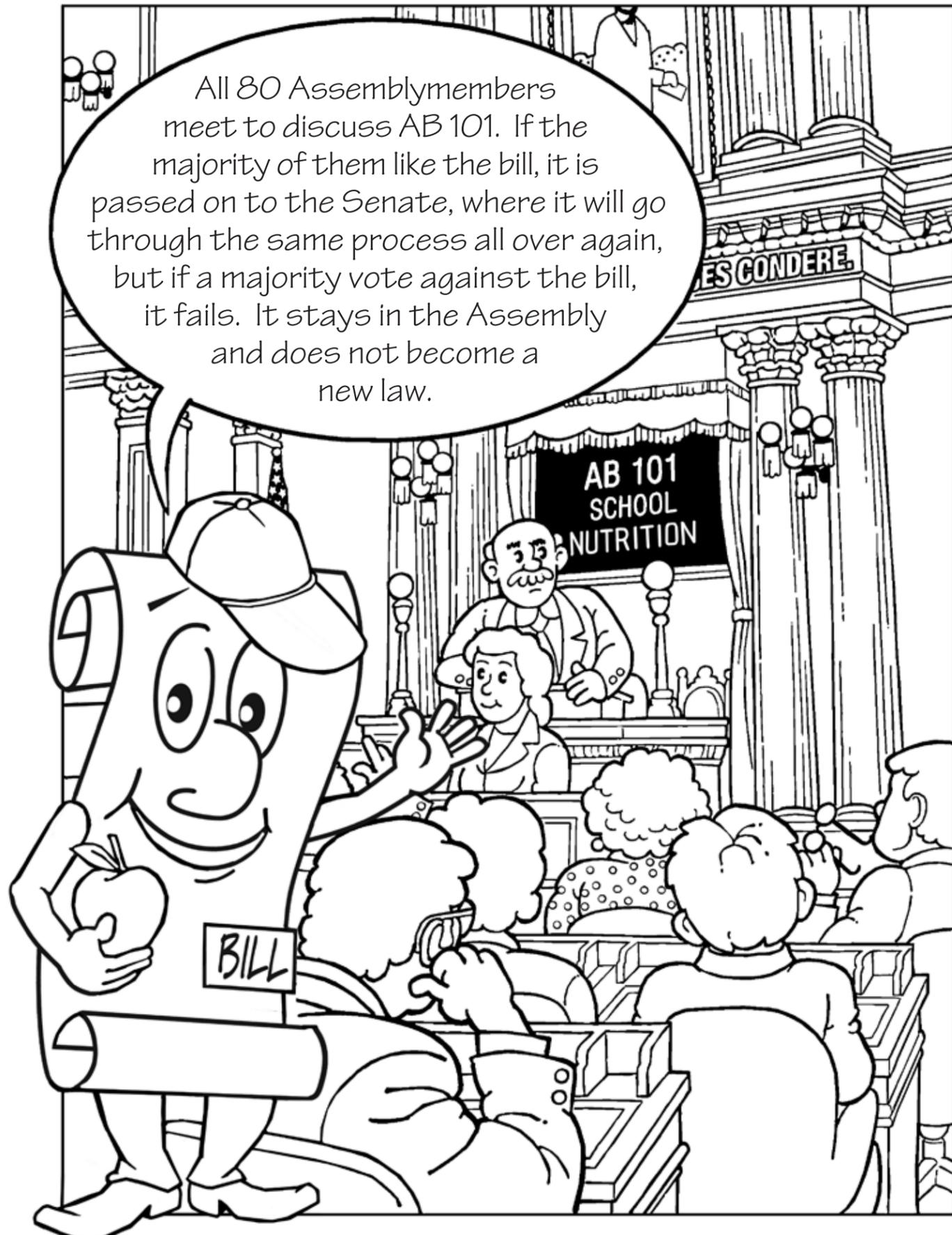
SIGN IT – It becomes law.

VETO IT – It does not become law.

DO NOTHING – After 10 days, it becomes law automatically without a signature.



All 80 Assemblymembers meet to discuss AB 101. If the majority of them like the bill, it is passed on to the Senate, where it will go through the same process all over again, but if a majority vote against the bill, it fails. It stays in the Assembly and does not become a new law.



Bill finds an author

It looks like your Assemblymember agreed to be author of the school nutrition bill!

The author of the bill will introduce it, and it will be given a number. Let's call the school nutrition bill Assembly Bill 101 (AB 101 for short). AB 101 will now be assigned to a committee for discussion.



An Assembly Committee

is a small group of Assemblymembers. Committees hold public hearings where anyone can come and discuss a bill. There are many committees, each discussing bills on specific subjects — for example, one committee will discuss bills about cars and one committee will discuss bills about doctor visits. A bill could also be discussed by more than one committee.



After a bill is discussed at a hearing, the committee members vote on whether it would be a good law. If the majority of the committee's members like the bill, they pass it and send it to the full Assembly for another vote.

Guess what? The committee liked the school nutrition bill.
AB 101 has passed!

